

Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A thermoplastic hook strand produced by a process comprising the steps of
 - (a) extruding a thermoplastic resin in a machine direction through a die plate having a continuous base portion cavity and one or more ridge cavities extending from at least one face of the base portion cavity,
 - (b) forming a film from the extruded thermoplastic resin, said film having a base film portion with at least ~~one~~ two or more hook profiled ridges,
 - (c) cutting the film in a first direction on at least one face through the ~~one~~ two or more ridges to form a plurality of cut ridge portions,
 - (d) orienting the cut film ~~portions~~ portions at least in the direction of the ridges thereby separating the cut ridge ~~portion~~ portions into discrete upstanding hook members,
 - (e) continuously splitting the film in a second direction substantially along the direction of the ~~one~~ two or more ridges so as to form ~~at least one~~ two or more discrete strand strands having discrete upstanding hook members along the length of the ~~strand strands~~ the strands having a thermoplastic base layer with at least a first face and a second face with integral discrete hook elements members formed from thermoplastic resin of the base layer on at least one face in at least one row, the hook elements having hook engaging arms extending at an angle of from 1 to 90 degrees from the longitudinal direction of the strand wherein the base layer is ~~an~~ the split oriented thermoplastic resin film.

2. (Currently amended) A hook strand of claim 1 wherein the ridges are in the shape of hook elements members having hook engaging arms extend at an angle of from 30 to 90 degrees from the longitudinal direction of the strand.

3. (Previously presented) A hook strand of claim 2 wherein the thermoplastic resin is an inelastic resin.

4. (Currently amended) A hook strand of claim 3 wherein the film is in the form of multiple layer thermoplastic resin flow stream.

5. (Currently amended) A hook strand of claim 1 wherein the ridges are in the shape of hook elements members having hook engaging arm which extend at an angle of from 1° to 90° from the longitudinal direction of the ridges.

6. (Previously presented) A hook strand of claim 2 wherein the ridges extend from two or more faces of the strand.

7. (Previously presented) A hook strand of claim 6 wherein ridges are provided that form hook engaging arms extend from three or more faces of the base layer.

8. (Previously presented) A hook strand of claim 1 wherein the hook engaging arms extend from a face of the strand in a single row.

9. (Currently amended) A hook strand of claim 1 wherein the hook elements members are substantially rectilinear.

10. (Currently amended) A hook strand of claim 9 wherein the hook elements members have two opposing flat faces.

11. (Currently amended) A hook strand of claim 8 wherein there are from 10 to 50 hook elements members per centimeter.

12. (Currently amended) A hook strand of claim 8 wherein there are from 20 to 40 hook elements members per centimeter.

13. (Currently amended) A hook strand of claim 1 wherein there are at least 5 hook elements members per centimeter.

14. (Currently amended) A hook strand of claim 1 wherein there are at least 10 hook elements members per centimeter.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) A hook strand of claim ~~45~~ 1 wherein the base layer is essentially flat.

17. (Original) A hook strand of claim 1 wherein the base layer is nonplanar.

18. (Original) A hook strand of claim 1 wherein the base layer has a thickness of from 25 to 150 μm .

19. (Original) A hook strand of claim 1 wherein the base layer has a thickness of from 25 to 100 μm .

20. – 52. (Cancelled)